

I would like to emphasize the special needs of public schools in the territories, which, apart from the remoteness from the U.S. mainland, share in the same struggle to meet the basic needs of operating a school system. But due to our geography, we face special challenges in maintenance, school construction, acquisition of school supplies and equipment, recruitment and training of professionals.

In Guam, we face the additional burden of dealing with typhoons in an unforgiving tropical environment, unforgiving for buildings, that is. The people of Guam have crafted a reasonable 10-year plan for the system's infrastructure, and we look to Federal programs and unique bonding arrangements which will jump-start our effort to bring Guam schools into the 21st century.

The territories are generally included in most national programs, but only as afterthoughts and educators in Guam must follow a patchwork system of funding arrangements and frequent bureaucratic indifference in order to obtain needed and fair funding. This was the message conveyed to me in a meeting last week with Guam's top-level administrators in the Department of Education.

We also frequently try to apply national programs to our local jurisdictions which face very different and difficult circumstances. It is for this reason that territorial school systems which have a unique relationship with the Federal Government deserve special consideration and mention in the President's plan and any plan which leaves Congress.

As stated in Title VI of the President's proposal, "The Federal Government has a special obligation to certain schools that educate the children of families who serve in the U.S. military and those that educate Native American children." This initiative to rebuild schools for Native Americans and children of military families should be extended to all territories, as all territories have a unique relationship with the Federal Government.

As an educator by training, and my mother is an educator and my wife is an educator and my daughter is an educator, I must also state a concern about the emerging nature of the accountability to mention the President's proposal. I am concerned about the overreliance of testing as the only measure of educational success. Guam schools, like many other school districts in the Nation, are struggling to meet very basic needs and have a very diverse student body and we need to account for different ways of measuring success.

I believe in standards and agree that the failure to include high standards will mean that schools will not meet designated goals. But we must think about other ways to measure the school environment than simple reliance on standardized testing, just that alone.

As a former educator, I give President Bush high marks for introducing a comprehensive educational measure at the beginning of his administration. This demonstrates his solid commitment to improve education in public schools for all American children. I know my colleagues in the territories will agree that this administration and this Congress should work in concert to move our Nation's educational agenda forward so that no child is left behind whether they live in Los Angeles or Washington, D.C., Hagatna or Yara.

I urge my fellow colleagues and President Bush to consider the special needs of U.S. territories as we work in crafting an educational plan that truly meets the needs of all Americans.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. MINK of Hawaii addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

WELL WISHES TO HON. BUD SHUSTER ON HIS DEPARTURE FROM HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, this is the last day for the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER), one of the most dynamic experts on transportation in the entire country. There has been no individual that has had more of an impact on transportation in Pennsylvania, in the commonwealth in his district, in my district, in the entire country.

He was an expert in the field. Even when he was in the minority, he had a tremendous impact on transportation things. He convinced the Congress and the White House that the taxes we collect for transportation ought to go to transportation; and, even against tremendous odds, he was able to win that battle.

It will be a long time before we see another person with his ability. He was a Ph.D with a Phi Beta Kappa. He was an Army veteran. He was a person of great compassion, and sometimes it was overshadowed by things that he was interested in.

But I will say this, that the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) will be long remembered for all the things that he did in Pennsylvania and for his legacy and there will be a better transportation system in this great country. And that is absolutely essential to our economic progress.

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the finest sons of Pennsylvania: Chairman BUD SHUSTER.

BUD, your commitment and vision has reshaped our national landscape from the local level to the national level.

In 1995, when I took the oath of office and won a seat on the T&I Committee, you were beginning your 12th term as a Congressman and first year as Chairman of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Little did

I realize that under your leadership the Committee would become the most productive Congress has ever seen. A large measure of your success can be attributed to your fair treatment and respect for the minority members of the Committee.

We as a nation are extremely lucky to have had you working to build the Transportation and Environmental infrastructure of our nation. Because of your efforts, I do not believe the American people will ever again accept inadequate funding for our Waterways, Railways, Airways, and Highways.

Personally, I want to thank you for helping with many projects in my district. I am particularly grateful for your visit to my district to view the efforts being made to complete the Mon-Fayette and Southern Beltway Transportation Projects. Once completed, this project has the economic potential to revive the economy for the hard working men and women of southwestern Pennsylvania.

It has been an honor and pleasure to work with you on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Although I am certain you are looking forward to other pursuits, you will be sadly missed by me personally and your colleagues on the Committee.

As you plan for your future, let me assure you that you have a friend in FRANK MASCARA. I wish you the best of everything.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks about the retirement of the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

CONSUMER ONLINE PRIVACY AND DISCLOSURE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join in the remarks of my colleague. The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) has been very fair and worked on transportation not only, obviously, in Pennsylvania but all over the country. His presence will be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today, though, to talk about a bill I just introduced, the Consumer Online Privacy and Disclosure Act.

Unprecedented numbers of American consumers are flocking to the Internet to transact business and tap the nearly limitless informational databases that are available. The explosion in Internet usage, however, is not without its problems.

Unlike shopping in a mall or browsing through a library where individuals travel anonymously through the merchandise racks and library stacks, the Internet is becoming less and less anonymous. Direct marketing firms